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HAL QUINN
President & CEO

December 19, 2012

Mr. Scott Zimmerman
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001



Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

The National Mining Association (NMA) is writing to nominate Kevin Larkin, Vice President, Marketing Services, Transportation & Logistics for Alliance Coal, LLC to serve on the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC). NMA is a national trade association that includes the producers of most of the nation's coal, metals, industrial and agricultural minerals; the manufacturers of mining and mineral processing machinery, equipment and supplies; and the engineering and consulting firms, financial institutions and other firms serving the mining industry.

Coal is a critical part of the nations' economy, including the railroads that the STB oversees. The U.S. consumes over one billion tons of coal annually, over 90 percent of which is used by power plants to produce electricity. Over 72 percent of the coal destined for U.S. power plants is transported by rail, and in 2011, rail transport of coal yielded over \$16 billion of freight revenue. As explained by the Association of American Railroads, "No single commodity is more important to America's railroads than coal. Coal accounted for 43.3 percent of rail tonnage and 24.7 percent of rail gross revenue in 2011."

NMA nominates Mr. Larkin, to serve as a representative from a coal producer for the remainder of the three-year term ending Sept. 30, 2014. He has a wealth of experience with over 32 years of coal industry employment, including 11 years with Alliance and its predecessor, Mapco Coal. Alliance is the seventh largest coal producer in the United States. Kevin is responsible for all transportation, logistics, strategic distribution and market support for coal and supporting products from Alliance Coal's eleven mining complexes and river terminal operations. Kevin also serves on the NMA transportation committee, and was the former president of the Eastern Coal Transportation Association, a predecessor to the National Coal Transportation Association.

Mr. Scott Zimmerman
December 19, 2012
Page Two

Mr. Larkin has the knowledge and experience to make a significant, positive contribution as a representative of a key stakeholder to the STB's Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee. Further information on Mr. Larkin's background and experience is appended for your consideration.

Mr. Larkin has communicated to NMA his willingness to serve on the RETAC. He is not a federally registered lobbyist. NMA greatly appreciates your consideration of his nomination. If you have any questions regarding this nomination, please feel free to contact NMA Associate General Counsel Bradford Frisby at (202) 463-2643 (bfrisby@nma.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hal Quinn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hal Quinn

Kevin J. Larkin

Vice President, Market Services, Transportation & Logistics
Alliance Coal LLC. Tulsa, Oklahoma

Kevin J. Larkin is Vice President of Market Services, Transportation and Logistics for Alliance Coal LLC. In this capacity, he has overall responsibility for all transportation, logistics, strategic distribution and market support for coal and supporting products from Alliance's eleven mining complexes, brokerage coal and river terminal operations.

Kevin assumed this position with the Alliance organization in March, 2007. He has over 32 years of coal industry experience, including eleven years with Alliance or its predecessor Mapco Coal from 1988 to 1999. He started his career in the coal business in 1980 when he joined ANR Coal, Roanoke, Virginia (a subsidiary of American Natural Resources which later was acquired by Coastal Corporation). Larkin also spent time on the utility side of the business having served as Vice President of First Energy Fuel Marketing Company and General Manager, Fuel Services and Transportation for FirstEnergy Corp. from 1999 to 2005.

He is a graduate of Robert Morris University, Pittsburgh, Pa. where he majored in Business Administration with a focus on transportation and logistics.

Larkin serves on the Transportation Committee of the National Mining Association. He is a past Director of the National Coal Transportation Association, past Director of Waterways Council, Inc. and was the former President of the Eastern Coal Transportation Association which he helped merge with the Western Coal Transportation Association to form the National Coal Transportation Association. He is also a member of various trade organizations.

On the personal side, he serves on the Board of New Hope which is a non-profit organization designed to help children who have a parent or parents that are incarcerated. He also volunteers and serves on other community organizations within the Tulsa area.

He and his wife, Jackie have three daughters and reside in Tulsa, Oklahoma.